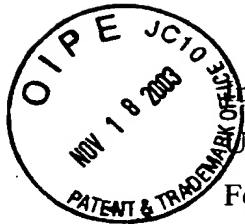


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#8
BN
11-25-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



U.S. application of:

Rieko IZUME and Yoshihiro HARA

For:

IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS

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Commissioner For Patents
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Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

NOVEMBER 13, 2003

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

Submitted herewith is a copy of a Japanese Final Rejection, for related Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-339306, along with an English translation thereof. The Rejection cites the following:

- (1) Hiroshi Murase et al., “Fast Visual Search Using Focused Color Matching – Active Search”, Magazine of Institute of Electronic Information Communication (1998-9-25), Vol. J81-D-II, No. 9, pages 2035 through 2042 (**Please note** -- the foregoing article, along with a partial translation thereof, was previously brought to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office via Applicants’ Information Disclosure Statement mailed March 20, 2002, and received by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 28, 2002 and via Applicants’ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement mailed February 28, 2003, and received by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 6, 2003); and
- (2) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 2000-069304 (AI SOFT KK), published March 3, 2000 (**Please note** -- the foregoing reference was previously brought to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office via Applicants’ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement mailed February 28, 2003, and received by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 6, 2003).

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP’s Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



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